Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-3. (Canceled)

4 - 23. (Canceled)

24. (Currently amended)   An electronic educational toy, comprising:

a toy housing supporting a planar work platform on which a child can make selections by causing contact across a surface of the planar work platform, the toy housing enclosing:

a speaker,

a processor, and

at least a portion of a sensing system, the sensing system sensing occurrences of contact caused by the child with the work platform and sending information to the processor corresponding to one or more sensed occurrences of contact;

a plurality of images presented on the work platform to the child ~~user~~ to facilitate the interaction between the child ~~user~~ and ~~the~~ educational software operable with the electronic toy, wherein at least a portion of the educational software is capable of being downloaded from a remote location over a data transmission medium and wherein the images presented on the work platform are changed from time to time, the processor being aware of the change of images without the child having to assist in advising the toy that the presented images have been changed; and

a multiple contact learning mode including:

a plurality of questions or instructions capable of being output by the speaker, the questions or instructions presenting the child with a problem which can only be correctly solved by the child ~~by the child~~ causing contact with the work platform two or more times,

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the child indicating two or more cognitive selections by causing contact with the work platform two or more times,

the processor enclosed within the housing receiving information from the sensing system corresponding to at least the first and second sensed occurrences of contact by the child on the work platform in response to the question or instruction and using the information to evaluate whether the child's cognitive selections as indicated by the child caused contacts with the work platform correspond to a correct solution to the question or instruction,

a first audio feedback response output by the speaker where the processor determines that the two or more child caused contacts with the work platform correspond to a correct solution to the question or instruction, the first audio feedback response indicating to the child that the two or more selections by the child correspond to a correct response to the question or instruction, and

a second audio feedback response output by the speaker where the processor determines that one or more of the child caused contacts with the work platform does not correspond to a correct solution to the question or instruction, the second audio feedback response indicating that one or more of the selections by the child is something other than a correct solution to the question or instruction.

25. (Previously presented)   An electronic educational toy as in claim 24, wherein in the multiple contact learning mode, the contact with the work surface is object-generated contact.

26. (Previously presented)   An electronic educational toy as in claim 24, wherein the work platform comprises a touch-sensitive surface.

27. (Previously presented)   An electronic educational toy as in claim 24, further comprising a second prompt for a correct response to the question or instruction in the event the decision by the child does not correspond to a correct response to the question or instruction.

28. (Previously presented)   An electronic educational toy as in claim 24, wherein at least a portion of the educational software is capable of being loaded via a portably memory.

29. - 39 (Canceled)

40. (Currently amended)   An electronic educational toy as in claim ~~13~~ 29, wherein the work platform comprises a contact-sensitive electronic display screen electronically and temporarily displaying the plurality of images on the work platform.

41. – 42. (Canceled)

43. (Currently amended)   An electronic educational toy ~~as in claim 30~~, comprising:

a toy housing supporting a planar work platform on which a child can make selections by causing contact across a planar surface of the work platform, wherein the work platform comprises a contact-sensitive electronic display screen electronically and temporarily displaying the plurality of images on the work platform, and the toy housing enclosing:

_____ a speaker,

_____ a processor, and

_____ at least a portion of a sensing system, the sensing system sensing occurrences of contact caused by the child with the work platform and sending information to the processor corresponding to one or more sensed occurrences of contact; and

a multiple contact learning mode including:

a plurality of questions or instructions capable of being output by the speaker, the questions or instructions presenting the child with a problem which can only be correctly solved by the child causing contact with the work platform two or more times in a particular sequence, the child indicating two or more cognitive selections by causing contact with the work platform two or more times in a particular sequence,

the processor enclosed within the housing receiving information from the sensing system corresponding to sensed occurrences of contact by the child on the work platform in response to the question or instruction and using the information to evaluate whether the

child's cognitive selections as indicated by the child caused contacts with the work platform and the sequence thereof correspond to a correct solution to the question or instruction,

a first audio feedback response output by the speaker where the processor determines that the two or more child caused contacts with the work platform and the sequence thereof correspond to a correct solution to the question or instruction, the first audio feedback response indicating to the child that the two or more selections by the child correspond to a correct response to the question or instruction, and

a second audio feedback response output by the speaker where the processor determines that one or more of the child caused contacts with the work platform or the sequence thereof does not correspond to a correct solution to the question or instruction, the second audio feedback response indicating that one or more of the selections by the child is something other than a correct solution to the question or instruction.

44. (previously presented)   An electronic educational toy as in claim 4, wherein the work platform comprises a touch-sensitive surface.

45. – 50. (Canceled)

51. (currently amended)   An electronic educational toy, ~~as in claim 4 further~~ comprising:

a toy housing supporting a planar work platform on which a child can make selections by causing contact across a planar surface of the work platform, the toy housing enclosing:

_____ a speaker,

_____ a processor, and

at least a portion of a sensing system, the sensing system sensing occurrences of contact caused by the child with the work platform and sending information to the processor corresponding to one or more sensed occurrences of contact;

a first learning mode wherein the child explores letters, words, numbers or pictures by causing contact with the work platform without there being an indication of an incorrect selection of a letter, word, number or picture and the toy provides audio feedback to the child when such contact corresponds to the selection of a letter, word, number or picture, the audio feedback relating to the selected letter, word, number or picture; and

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a multiple contact learning mode including:

a plurality of questions or instructions capable of being output by the speaker, the questions or instructions presenting the child with a problem which can only be correctly solved by the child causing contact with the work platform two or more times, the child indicating two or more cognitive selections by causing contact with the work platform two or more times,

the processor enclosed within the housing receiving information from the sensing system corresponding to sensed occurrences of contact by the child on the work platform in response to the question or instruction and using the information to evaluate whether the child's cognitive selections as indicated by the child caused contacts with the work platform correspond to a correct solution to the question or instruction,

a first audio feedback response output by the speaker where the processor determines that the two or more child caused contacts with the work platform correspond to a correct solution to the question or instruction, the first audio feedback response indicating to the child that the two or more selections by the child correspond to a correct response to the question or instruction,

a second audio feedback response output by the speaker where the processor determines that one or more of the child caused contacts with the work platform does not correspond to a correct solution to the question or instruction, the second audio feedback response indicating that one or more of the selections by the child is something other than a correct solution to the question or instruction; and

a movement tracking capability wherein in response to an audio prompt a child causes contact with the work platform to laterally move across the face of the work surface while the contact is maintained with the work platform and the processor detects the path of the contact as it moves laterally across the face of the work platform.

52. – 53. (Canceled)

54. (currently amended)   An electronic educational toy, as in claim 30 further comprising:

a toy housing supporting a planar work platform on which a child can make selections by causing contact across a planar surface of the work platform, wherein the work platform comprises a contact-sensitive electronic display screen electronically and temporarily displaying the plurality of images on the work platform, and the toy housing enclosing:

a speaker,

a processor, and

at least a portion of a sensing system, the sensing system sensing occurrences of contact caused by the child with the work platform and sending information to the processor corresponding to one or more sensed occurrences of contact; and

a multiple contact learning mode including:

a plurality of questions or instructions capable of being output by the speaker, the questions or instructions presenting the child with a problem which can only be correctly solved by the child causing contact with the work platform two or more times in a particular sequence, the child indicating two or more cognitive selections by causing contact with the work platform two or more times in a particular sequence,

the processor enclosed within the housing receiving information from the sensing system corresponding to sensed occurrences of contact by the child on the work platform in response to the question or instruction and using the information to evaluate whether the child's cognitive selections as indicated by the child caused contacts with the work platform and the sequence thereof correspond to a correct solution to the question or instruction,

a first audio feedback response output by the speaker where the processor determines that the two or more child caused contacts with the work platform and the sequence thereof correspond to a correct solution to the question or instruction, the first audio feedback response indicating to the child that the two or more selections by the child correspond to a correct response to the question or instruction, and

a second audio feedback response output by the speaker where the processor determines that one or more of the child caused contacts with the work platform or the sequence thereof does not correspond to a correct solution to the question or instruction, the second audio feedback response indicating that one or more of the selections by the child is something other than a correct solution to the question or instruction; and

a movement tracking capability wherein in response to an audio prompt a child causes contact with the work platform to laterally move across the face of the work surface while the

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contact is maintained with the work platform and the processor detects the path of the contact as it moves laterally across the face of the work platform.

55. (Currently amended)   An electronic educational toy as in claim 4<u>3</u>, wherein in the multiple contact learning mode, the problem can only be correctly solved by the child causing contact with the work platform two or more times in a particular sequence,

the processor evaluates whether the child's cognitive selections as indicated by the child caused contacts with the work platform and the sequence thereof correspond to a correct solution to the question or instruction,

the first audio feedback response is output by the speaker where the processor determines that the two or more child caused contacts with the work platform and the sequence thereof correspond to a correct solution to the question or instruction, and

the second audio feedback response is output by the speaker where the processor determines that one or more of the child caused contacts with the work platform or the sequence thereof does not correspond to a correct solution to the question or instruction.

56. (Currently amended)   An electronic educational toy as in claim ~~13~~ <u>51</u>, wherein in the multiple contact learning mode, the problem can only be correctly solved by the child causing contact with the work platform two or more times in a particular sequence,

the processor evaluates whether the child's cognitive selections as indicated by the child caused contacts with the work platform and the sequence thereof correspond to a correct solution to the question or instruction,

the first audio feedback response is output by the speaker where the processor determines that the two or more child caused contacts with the work platform and the sequence thereof correspond to a correct solution to the question or instruction, and

the second audio feedback response is output by the speaker where the processor determines that one or more of the child caused contacts with the work platform or the sequence thereof does not correspond to a correct solution to the question or instruction.

57. – 62. (canceled)

63. (currently amended)   An electronic educational toy ~~as in claim 30~~, comprising:

a toy housing supporting a planar work platform on which a child can make selections by causing contact across a planar surface of the work platform, the toy housing enclosing:

a speaker,

a processor, and

at least a portion of a sensing system, the sensing system sensing occurrences of contact caused by the child with the work platform and sending information to the processor corresponding to one or more sensed occurrences of contact, and wherein the sensing system comprises a grid of wires, wires of the grid being sequentially energized so that contact with the work platform generates a variation in one or more of the wires of the grid from which the location of contact on the work platform can be determined; and

a multiple contact learning mode including:

a plurality of questions or instructions capable of being output by the speaker, the questions or instructions presenting the child with a problem which can only be correctly solved by the child causing contact with the work platform two or more times in a particular sequence, the child indicating two or more cognitive selections by causing contact with the work platform two or more times in a particular sequence,

the processor enclosed within the housing receiving information from the sensing system corresponding to sensed occurrences of contact by the child on the work platform in response to the question or instruction and using the information to evaluate whether the child's cognitive selections as indicated by the child caused contacts with the work platform and the sequence thereof correspond to a correct solution to the question or instruction,

a first audio feedback response output by the speaker where the processor determines that the two or more child caused contacts with the work platform and the sequence thereof correspond to a correct solution to the question or instruction, the first audio feedback response indicating to the child that the two or more selections by the child correspond to a correct response to the question or instruction, and

a second audio feedback response output by the speaker where the processor determines that one or more of the child caused contacts with the work platform or the sequence thereof does not correspond to a correct solution to the question or instruction, the

second audio feedback response indicating that one or more of the selections by the child is something other than a correct solution to the question or instruction.